



ASIA PACIFIC

Sustainable Global Value Chain FORUM

10 – 11 September 2026

15 International Business Park, Singapore

Stakeholder Perspectives and
Collaborative Approaches for
Sustainable Value Chains in the
Asia Pacific

CONVENED BY:

15

CRB

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BUSINESS

Enabling Change for Impact

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Preface

At the outset, on behalf of all of us at the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB), we are delighted and grateful to the support and encouragement we have received from some of our old friends and new in the Asia Pacific (APAC) region – particularly South and South East Asia. We are particularly thankful to TUV SUD for hosting the Forum in their Office in Singapore.

This forum was envisaged in response to the growing interest among experts and stakeholders for a platform/forum to collectively re-think governance and performance of sustainable global value chains (GVCs) in the region, keeping in view the interest of nature, climate, people and local economies herein. We have decided to focus in this, the inaugural forum on South and South East Asia – but believe the issues represent and are relevant for the wider APAC region. We hope and expect this forum and the experts will continue to engage and dialogue on the subject beyond the forum, and CRB together with interested partners will help facilitate this continued discourse.

Given our work and that of various other partners and like-minded organisations in the region, we believe the debate on governance of global value chains could possibly be considered from two angles; (i) facilitating balanced dialogues and collective action between relevant stakeholders from the global 'south' and 'north'; and (ii) catalysing collective thinking and experience sharing among stakeholders from within the global 'south'. This Forum contributes specifically to the latter, focused on sharing experiences and good practices among stakeholders specifically from South and South East Asian countries (global 'south') – which continue to actively contribute to GVCs. It recognises the imperative for aligning developmental priorities of this region, as countries deepen their engagement in GVCs through heightened trade and commerce.

The Asia Pacific region has emerged as a leader in sophisticated innovations related to clean tech, green energy, digitalisation, artificial intelligence and other emergent technologies – and is no longer merely a supplier of minerals, resources, finished goods, and skilled workforce in low paying jobs. A growing consumer base has also created significant demand for goods and services locally, as evidenced by a consistent growth of 'south-south trade' in the region, as is globally. The region remains a hotbed of preferential trade agreements and has attracted near-record levels of investment proposals.

Many of these agreements and proposals have sustainability and supply chain resilience provisions included in them. So, expansion of trade and pursuit of sustainability can no longer be considered as mutually antagonistic policy objectives – but as mutually reinforcing. New methods, approaches and perhaps mindset is needed to explore how best to achieve win-win outcomes for all. The Asia Pacific region has the potential to demonstrate how this can be achieved.

It is time therefore for sustainability practitioners and policymakers in this region to collectively engage with their counterparts in advanced economies and partner countries to rejig GVCs design and deployment, especially in the wake of emerging disruptions that are likely to affect everyone including – climate change, extreme weather events, armed conflicts, geopolitical reorganisation, advancement of Artificial Intelligence, among others.

Finally, our heart goes out to our friends and colleagues in Nepal and the tens of thousands of families affected by one of the worst disasters in history. We hope collectively we can prevent and mitigate such disasters in future, or at least the magnitude of their adverse effects.



Rijit Sengupta

Chief Executive Officer,
Centre for Responsible Business

About Sustainable Global Value Chain-Forum

Background

Manufacturing accounts for approximately 13.88% and 18.6% of the GDP of South Asia and Southeast Asia, respectively. Together, these regions are becoming crucial drivers of global trade and production, while continuing to confront nagging developmental challenges. A number of expanding industrial sectors¹; rising middle class; and involvement in key trade and investment agreements position this region, and the wider Asia Pacific region (APAC region) as major players in global manufacturing and consumption.

Southeast Asia's value added in the manufacturing market is projected to amount to US\$721.28bn in 2025, with an expected compound annual growth rate of 2.33% (CAGR 2025–2029)². The manufacturing landscape is characterized by rapid expansion in countries such as Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Vietnam's manufacturing sector accounts for nearly 24.43% of GDP and benefits from significant foreign direct investment, particularly in electronics and food processing industries. Indonesia maintains consistent growth, with manufacturing contributing 18.98% of GDP. Malaysia's manufacturing makes up about 22.50% of GDP, led by electronics and semiconductor exports. Automotive production is a significant sub-sector. Thailand's manufacturing is about 24.32% of GDP, with the automotive, electronics, and petrochemical industries dominant. South Asia has been growing at a faster rate than any of the other regions. The manufacturing value added of South Asia in 2024 is 13.48%, with Bangladesh leading at 21.89%, followed by Sri Lanka at 17.99%, and Pakistan and India at 13.11% and 12.53% respectively³.

However, South Asia faces significant constraints related to domestic vulnerabilities and constrained fiscal space, emerging from high debt, low revenue collection, rising interest obligations, and large informal sectors, creating a fragile fiscal environment. As of end-2023, gross government debt averaged 77% of GDP, well above the 64% average for emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs). Interest payments absorbed 26% of government revenues, compared to just 9% across EMDEs, significantly narrowing fiscal space. Experts feel that a root cause is persistently low revenue mobilisation – for example from 2019 to 2023, general government revenues (excluding grants) averaged only 18% of GDP, the lowest among all EMDE regions.⁴

However, the middle class in South and Southeast Asia is rapidly expanding, driving strong consumption growth. India's consumer market is set to grow by 46% by 2030, and projections indicate that consumer spending will reach Indian Rupees (INR) 3,72,33,700 crore (US\$4.3 trillion) by 2030, up from INR 2,07,81,600 crore (US\$2.4 trillion) in 2024.⁵ In ASEAN, the consuming middle class will double from 60 million households in 2020 to 120 million by 2030, doubling purchasing power. Rising incomes, urban growth, and digital adoption are key drivers for increasing the consumer demand in the region. Vietnam's middle class is projected to hit 33 million, and Indonesia's is projected to grow from 100 million to 160 million by 2030, boosting consumption in Electronics, Automotive, Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), and Retail sectors.

The region also represents a global hotbed of sourcing of commodities, natural resources, minerals, finished goods and materials. International businesses have invested over the years in developing value chains to source commodities and finished goods from this region for their industries and consumers. It is imperative that integration of producers/suppliers/ manufacturers into these value chains results in positive benefits for people, nature, communities and the economies.

Sustainable Value Chains – An Imperative

There is heightened recognition of the imperative for sustainable value chains, especially in sectors such as textiles, electronics, agriculture, forestry, built environment, energy, automobiles – among others. Sustainable GVCs have the potential to increase resilience to climate risks, optimize resource utilization, and ensure equitable working conditions, all while maintaining competitiveness in international markets that are increasingly prioritizing ethical and eco-friendly sourcing. Over the last couple of decades, both entrepreneurs and policymakers in the region have explored the link between sustainable entrepreneurship and value chain integration. There are several successful cases in the region of suppliers/manufacturers who have responded pro-actively to such opportunities.

¹ Manufacturing; Electronics & Semiconductors; Automotive & Electric Vehicles (EVs); Technology & ICT; Business Process Services; Textile, Apparel and Garment to name a few

² <https://www.statista.com/outlook/10/manufacturing/southeast-asia?currency=USD>

³ <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>

⁴ <https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/developmenttalk/bridging-the-gap--revenue-mobilization-in-south-asia>

⁵ <https://www.ibef.org/news/india-s-consumer-market-to-become-world-s-second-largest-by-2030-report>

Given the intricate and interconnected nature of GVCs across multiple countries, industries, and stakeholders, ensuring their sustainability necessitates coordinated efforts across sectors and borders. While Governments enact policies and regulations, private sector entities embrace good practices, and civil society advocates for social, economic and environmental accountability.

Opportunities for Sustainable Global Value Chains in the Asia Pacific

The 2024 Asian Development Bank (ADB) report⁶ underlines the importance of driving sustainable and resilient value chains in the region, to ensure expansion of trade and commercial aspirations. Some of the key spotlight issues are:

- Transparency of GVCs originating from the region
- Integration of SMEs and smallholders in GVCs
- Role of digitalisation in driving resilient GVCs
- Trade and Climate Change

There is a growing consensus for the need to boost supply chain resilience to future shocks. To this end, countries could prioritise the following three key aspects: (i) acknowledge and address rising climate change risks and their impact on GVC and supply chains; (ii) introduce and implement new technologies to enhance flexibility and resilience of supply chains to future shocks; and (iii) develop comprehensive and collaborative governance models for trade and transport connectivity and facilitation across borders and agencies⁷.

From some recent reports, it is evident that policy and processes related to creating an enabling environment for responsible and sustainable enterprise and value chains are also being considered across countries in the region. Efforts have also been made to enable capacity and skill-building of key stakeholders on responsible and sustainable business practices⁸. South Asian and Southeast Asian economies are increasingly prioritizing sustainable and inclusive growth through national policies, green industrial strategies, and social equity programs. However, these efforts are not yet adequately acknowledged or integrated into Global Value Chains (GVCs), which often prioritize cost-efficiency over environmental and social considerations.

While governments are increasingly enforcing emissions reporting, promoting green infrastructure, and offering incentives for renewables, many global buyers and supply chains have yet to fully integrate these priorities⁹. For instance, international procurement still often rewards the lowest-cost supplier rather than the most sustainable, even as countries implement stricter environmental policies, a disconnect highlighted in ASEAN by the Asian Development Bank, which warns that firms failing to decarbonize may lose competitiveness under emerging regulations like the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism¹⁰.

Many firms also view green requirements, such as traceability, certifications, or labor compliance, as cost burdens, particularly in price-sensitive sectors, with studies showing that environmental disclosures can temporarily reduce measures like Economic Value Added¹¹. While certain policies are in place, progress remains uneven – as deforestation, overfishing, and climate-related disruptions continue to threaten livelihoods and supply chain resilience across the region (OECD, 2023).

Rationale of the proposed Forum

While various initiatives/events at the regional level have focused on climate change, clean energy, climate finance, and broadly on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there is scope for cross-country and multi-stakeholder discourse on imperatives for and benefits from promoting Sustainable Global Value Chain (GVC) in the APAC region. Dominance of stakeholders and perspectives from the Global north at international/regional platforms, tend to sideline local/regional developmental, environmental, social and cultural elements. It is evident that policy stakeholders and practitioners from the region have limited opportunities to deliberate together and present their collective perspectives about the evolving global landscape on governance of GVCs. This is in spite of the fact that the region is a major contributor of raw materials and finished goods to GVCs.

⁶ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/954501/asia-pacific-trade-facilitation-report-2024.pdf>

⁷ T20 Policy Brief (2023) - https://c4rb.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/T20_PB_TF1_126_TradeFacilitation-Resilient-GVCs.pdf

⁸ <https://www.ilo.org/projects-and-partnerships/projects/building-responsible-value-chains-asia-through-promotion-decent-work-0>

⁹ OECD, 2023 Towards Greener and More Inclusive Societies in Southeast Asia; ADB, 2024 ASEAN and Global Value Chains: Unlocking Resilience and Sustainability)

¹⁰ ADB, 2024; BIMP-EAGA, 2023 Southeast Asia Must Decarbonize Global Value Chains

¹¹ MDPI, 2023 The Impact of ESG Disclosure on EVA in Southeast Asia

A regional forum that allows free and candid exchange of ideas, good practices, and perspectives across multiple stakeholders (business, public agencies, NGOs, bilateral agencies, multilateral agencies, academia, sustainability standards organisations, etc.) for promoting responsible and sustainable global value chains in the region is needed.

Since its establishment in 2011, the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB, www.c4rb.org), based in India, has collaborated with organisations to support and nurture dialogues and action on responsible and sustainable value chains. CRB annual sustainability summit, 'India and Sustainability Standards' (<https://sustainabilitystandards.in/>) has been bringing together between 1,200-1,500 stakeholders from India and beyond to discuss and present perspectives on sustainability/SDGs across sectors and value chains. CRB has designed and facilitated these platforms as 'safe space' for multiple stakeholders to convene, discuss and identify solutions to complex sustainability issues.

The experience of having convened several such platforms for over a decade now, has motivated the organisation to envisage this regional (Asia Pacific) forum, primarily focusing on South and South East Asian regions forum.

Proposed Theme

The proposed theme of the forum is, 'Stakeholder Perspectives and Collaborative Approaches for Sustainable Global Value Chains in the Asia Pacific'. The forum aims to:

- Explore mechanism that help align perspectives and interests of relevant stakeholders on sustainable global value chains linked with Asia Pacific
- Develop innovative ideas for collaboration and actions (knowledge, policy, network) involving multiple stakeholders from the region

Objectives

- Evolve a platform for sharing of knowledge and experiences across the region on sustainable GVCs by diverse stakeholders
- Create opportunity to network and co-create multi-country and/or multiple-stakeholder-based ideas and actions on sustainable GVCs
- Curate policy insights on sustainable GVCs for international policy and practice

Anticipated Outcomes

- An Asia Pacific network of champions on sustainable GVCs
- Evidence towards building a credible and transparent narrative from Asia Pacific economies and stakeholders on sustainability
- Collection of good practices from the region demonstrating business case for sustainable GVCs
- Policy insights from the region to inform the evolving global landscape and governance of GVCs

10 September 2026

HIGH-LEVEL OPENING PLENARY

Trade, Global Value Chains and Sustainability in the Asia Pacific region

SESSION 1

Asia's Leadership Opportunity in Financing Nature-Positive Value Chains: *ReConnect Borneo*

SESSION 2

The Evolving Role of Carbon Markets in Corporate Decarbonisation: *From Carbon Neutrality to Sustainable Value Chains*

SESSION 3

Accelerating Sustainable and Circular Textiles and Fashion in Asia-Pacific: *Innovation, Collaboration and Pathways for Global Value Chains*

SESSION 4

Sustainability Leaders' Roundtable: Future of Global Value Chains: *Collective Views from the APAC Region (By invite only)*

High-level Opening Plenary

Co-Host

Trade, Global Value Chains and Sustainability in the Asia Pacific region

10 September 2026 | 9:30 am – 11:00 am

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SESSION OBJECTIVES



Unpack implications of emerging trade shifts and evolving sustainability regulations on people, nature and local economies for global value chains linked to the region

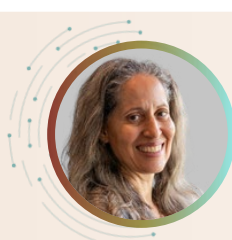


Deliberate on the importance of 'equitable governance' and 'shared responsibility' for achieving a win-win for the region and its international policy and business partners



Surface pragmatic pathways and frameworks for responsible, resilient global value chains that balance and respect human rights; nature and climate targets and socio-economic developmental needs in the region

SPEAKERS



Katia Daude Goncalves

Country Manager for Singapore, Malaysia & Brunei
International Finance Corporation



Shombi Sharp

Deputy Executive Secretary
United Nations ESCAP



Rijit Sengupta

Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Responsible Business



Dr. Céline Bilolo

Chief Sustainability Officer
TÜV SÜD



Kenny Kesar

Global Chief Information Officer
Wipro Limited



Chew Sutat

Chief Executive Officer
WWF-Singapore



Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan

Co-Chairperson, Centre for
Responsible Business
Professor, IIM Bangalore

ADVANCING COLLABORATIVE SUSTAINABILITY SOLUTIONS

TÜV SÜD-WWF Singapore MoU Signing Ceremony

Asia's Leadership Opportunity in Financing Nature-Positive Value Chains

ReConnect Borneo

10 September 2026 | 11:15 am - 12:45 pm

Co-Host



BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

The social and economic devastation brought about by nature loss is well-documented. As has been analysed and documented by the Stockholm Resilience Centre, we have now breached 7 out of the 9 planetary boundaries, critical for human life and well-being¹². It has also been established that achieving climate and development goals is impossible to achieve without keeping nature intact¹³.

Human and economic systems depend on nature for food, water, materials, energy, and all other natural resources needed to manage our climate. Nature underpins our whole economy and way of life. Yet we continue to destroy nature at a terrifying pace and are increasingly observing the human and economic cost of that. This is on par with climate change. These twin crises are inextricably linked and must be tackled together.

Achieving a nature-positive, net-zero economy is an imperative if we want to continue to thrive on this planet – we can and must reshape our economic system to deliver this. Change is already beginning, as the need to urgently address nature loss alongside climate change is increasingly recognised by economic decision makers, but we must dramatically speed up that process. The Earth stands on the brink of dangerous 'tipping points' that will have devastating impacts on people and nature all around the world. To avoid these tipping points, we need to redirect finance toward activities that contribute to the global goals on nature, climate, and sustainable development and at the same time drive funding to the people who need it most – those who live and work on the frontline of the climate and nature crisis. In doing so, reshaping economic incentives will create investment opportunities in nature-positive production and consumption and sustainable development pathways.

Singapore is Asia's premier financial and corporate hub, home to regional headquarters of multinational companies and global financial institutions that collectively shape commodity flows and sustainable finance decisions across Southeast Asia. Emerging regulations such as EUDR, UK Environment Act, ISSB/IFRS, TNFD, and CSRD/ESRS offer potential frameworks and roadmaps for global south economies to become more resilient in the face of biodiversity loss and climate change.

WWF's supply chain mapping demonstrates strong linkages between Asia based corporates/financial institutions and Borneo's ecological corridors, including palm oil, rubber, timber, cocoa, and coffee supply chains. Mainstreaming sustainable global value chains is a key factor in unlocking finance for key biodiversity and high conservation value areas.

ReConnect Borneo is WWF's new flagship initiative aimed at restoring ecological corridors, strengthening Indigenous and local community livelihoods, enabling nature-positive supply chains, and accelerating the development of local and regional regulations and financial mechanisms to protect nature and people.

If we are to meet global goals for nature, we urgently need a nature-positive economy – an economy that operates within planetary boundaries and no longer incentivizes the overexploitation of nature.

Reference: [Nature Positive Economy Roadmap](#) | [WWF Nature Positive Production](#) | [WWF](#)

¹² <https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/planetary-boundaries.html>

¹³ Harvey Locke, Johan Rockstrom, Raina Plowright et al (April 2026)

SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Underline the need for transitioning towards pro-nature business and value chain development in the APAC region
- Introduce ReConnect Borneo to as an innovative pro-nature landscape approach for scaling and replication in the region
- Demonstrate commodity and financing linkages between Singapore and Borneo, including WWF's pilot for regenerative palm oil in collaboration with SD Guthrie
- Highlight compliance pathways and risk mitigation for Deforestation and Conversion-Free (DCF) supply chains
- Socialize innovative finance opportunities including blended finance, sustainability-linked instruments, and nature credit mechanisms

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
11:15 am - 11:20 am	Welcome Remarks CRB
11:20 am - 11:35 am	Opening Remarks Dr. Henry Chan, Senior Director of Strategic Conservation Partnerships, WWF
11:35 am - 12:20 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Kamal Seth, Director, Global Palm Oil, WWF Panellists • Joanna Tan, Head of Fundraising (Asia), New Forests • Rashyd Redza Anwarudin, Chief Sustainability Officer, SD Guthrie Berhad • Tajeshwar Goyal, CFA, Market Engagement Lead (APAC) Secretariat, Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) • Dr. Henry Chan, Senior Director of Strategic Conservation Partnerships, WWF
12:20 PM - 12:40 PM	Q&A Practical pathways for partnerships.
12:40 PM - 12:45 PM	Summary and Closing

The Evolving Role of Carbon Markets in Corporate Decarbonisation

Co-Host

From Carbon Neutrality to Sustainable Value Chains

10 September 2026 | 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm



BACKGROUND

As organizations worldwide accelerate their climate commitments, they are increasingly faced with the challenge of delivering immediate emissions reductions while transforming complex global value chains over the longer term. Carbon markets continue to play an important role in enabling organizations to achieve short-to medium-term carbon neutrality by addressing residual emissions. However, recent scrutiny over the integrity of carbon credits has shifted the conversation from the scale of carbon markets to the quality, transparency and credibility of climate action.

This market insight session will provide an independent overview of the evolving carbon market landscape, highlighting global trends, corporate adoption, emerging regulations, and the increasing emphasis on high-integrity carbon credits. It will also explore how advances in digital technologies, monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), and data transparency are strengthening confidence in carbon markets. Finally, the session will look ahead to the future, where organizations are expected to move beyond offsetting towards supplier engagement, inseting, and the development of low-carbon and sustainable value chains.

The session is intended to provide the audience with a common understanding of the current market landscape and set the context for the panel discussion that follows.

SESSION OBJECTIVES

The session will aim to address the following:

- Examine why value chain emissions remain the hardest part of corporate climate commitments, surfacing the practical barriers companies face in acting on Scope 3 and clarifying how short-term carbon neutrality relates to long-term net-zero ambition.
- Assess the place of carbon markets within a credible climate strategy, including current market trends, the role of voluntary carbon markets and Article 6, and how organisations should treat carbon credits as a transition mechanism alongside continued emissions reduction.
- Establish what integrity means in practice, identifying the characteristics of a high-integrity carbon credit and the role of transparency, traceability, robust methodologies, independent verification and emerging standards in rebuilding market confidence.
- Explore how digital technologies are reshaping trust in carbon markets, drawing on digital MRV, satellite monitoring, AI and blockchain to improve monitoring, verification and confidence.
- Consider the shift from offsetting towards value chain decarbonization, examining how supplier engagement, inseting and green procurement change the balance between immediate climate action and long-term business transformation.

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
1:30 pm – 1:35 pm	Welcome Remarks CRB
1:35 pm – 1:40 pm	Opening Remarks TÜV SÜD
1:40 pm – 1:50 pm	Keynote Address Dr. Sonja Stuchtey, Founder and CEO, The Landbanking group
11:35 am – 12:20 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Bratin Roy, Global Head of Decarbonization and Chief Operating Officer of the Global Sustainability Business Unit, TÜV SÜD AG Panellists • Khushboo Oswal, Global Head of Carbon Management, TÜV SÜD • Dr. Sonja Stuchtey- Founder and CEO, The Landbanking Group • Rueban Manokara, Director, Carbon Finance and Global Lead of the Carbon Finance and Markets Taskforce, WWF • Sebastien Cross, Founder and CIO, BeZero, UK • Joshua Wickerham, Senior Advisor, Outreach and Engagement, ISEAL
2:55 pm – 3:00 pm	Summary and Closing

Accelerating Sustainable and Circular Textiles and Fashion in Asia-Pacific

Innovation, Collaboration and Pathways for Global Value Chains

10 September 2026 | 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm

Co-Host

Singapore
Fashion
Council

BACKGROUND

Asia is not only the world's largest manufacturing base for textiles and apparel but is increasingly emerging as a hub for innovation in sustainable and circular textiles and fashion. Across the region, governments, industry associations, manufacturers, brands and innovators are demonstrating that the transition to circularity is being shaped through collaboration, resource efficiency, technological innovation and inclusive approaches that recognise the importance of SMEs, workers and local communities.

CRB's recent multi-country research (India, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Indonesia) highlights encouraging progress across Asia. India is advancing a policy framework for sustainable and circular textiles while promoting resource efficiency, water stewardship and recycling. Vietnam is accelerating circular economy implementation through its National Action Plan for Circular Economy and growing investments in textile recycling and waste reduction. Sri Lanka has established itself as a leader in green manufacturing and innovative circular business models, supported by strong collaboration between industry and academia. These examples demonstrate that the region is increasingly moving from isolated initiatives towards systemic transformation.

Singapore is complementing these developments by positioning itself as a regional hub for responsible fashion. Through the Singapore Fashion Council, the country has established programmes that strengthen industry capabilities, promote circularity, foster innovation and encourage cross-sector collaboration. Initiatives such as the Fashion Sustainability Programme, the Zero Fashion Waste Initiative, and the 5R framework for textile circularity (Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recovery and Resource) are supporting businesses and consumers to adopt more circular practices. The Council has also convened stakeholders through its Be The Change Summit and is leading the development of a Textile Circularity Consortium to strengthen collaboration across the value chain while promoting innovation, inclusive design, emerging technologies and responsible business practices. These initiatives reinforce Singapore's ambition to serve as a regional platform for accelerating sustainable and circular fashion across Asia.

While countries across Asia are making significant progress, common challenges remain, including fragmented policy landscapes, the dominance of SMEs, limited recycling infrastructure, financing gaps, traceability challenges and the need for stronger public-private partnerships. Addressing these challenges collectively presents an opportunity to accelerate learning, scale innovation and strengthen Asia's position as a competitive, resilient and sustainable supplier to global value chains.

SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Showcase progressive policy, industry and innovation-led initiatives advancing sustainable and circular textiles and fashion across the Asia-Pacific region, highlighting practical examples of resource efficiency, circular business models, technology adoption and multi-stakeholder collaboration.
- Examine emerging opportunities for the Asia-Pacific textile and apparel sector within evolving global value chains, including changing market expectations, sustainability regulations, circular business opportunities and the region's competitive advantages.
- Identify common challenges and critical gaps that continue to constrain the transition to sustainable and circular textiles—including policy coherence, finance, technology, infrastructure, data, skills and MSME participation—and deliberate on the key enablers required to address them.
- Discuss pathways for positioning the Asia-Pacific region as a global leader in sustainable and circular textiles and apparel, including the role of innovation, resource efficiency, inclusive growth, and collaborative ecosystem development.

- Explore opportunities for regional cooperation, knowledge exchange and collective action among governments, industry associations, research institutions, development partners and other stakeholders to accelerate the transition towards resilient and sustainable textile value chains.
- Develop a shared regional narrative on sustainable and circular textiles and fashion that reflects the priorities, strengths and aspirations of the Asia-Pacific region and contributes to international policy dialogues and future collaboration.

SESSION OUTPUT

- Identification of common opportunities, challenges and enabling conditions for advancing sustainable and circular textiles and apparel across the Asia-Pacific region, including priorities for strengthening the region's role in evolving global value chains.
- Compilation of good practices and emerging models showcasing policy, industry, innovation and collaborative initiatives that can be adapted and scaled across the region.
- A set of recommendations to strengthen regional cooperation and build a shared Asia-Pacific narrative on sustainable and circular textiles and apparel, informing future policy dialogue, capacity building and collaborative action.

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
3:15 pm – 3:20 pm	Welcome Remarks CRB
3:20 pm – 3:30 pm	Opening Remarks Singapore Fashion Council
3:30 pm – 4:35 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Devyani Hari, Senior Director, Centre for Responsible Business Panellists • Ting Ting Zhang, CEO, Singapore Fashion Council • Kim Wolf, Founder & Principal Consultant, Woptag • Cecilia Hough, Lead, Impact Management & Community Engagement, B Lab Singapore • Tatheer Zaidi, Asia head - Pollution Management in MSMEs, Solidaridad • Naveen Sainani, Representative Clothing Manufacturers Association, India • Parvinder Singh – Founder, Global Alliance for Textile Sustainability Council
4:35 pm – 4:45 pm	Summary and Closing

Sustainability Leaders' Roundtable

Future of Global Value Chains: Collective Views from the APAC Region

10 September 2026 | 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Co-Host

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ABOUT THE FORUM

The Sustainable Global Value Chain Forum – Asia Pacific (10–11 September 2026, Singapore) is being convened by the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB, www.c4rb.org), a leading action oriented think-tank working on sustainable business issues within India and beyond. The Forum is being co-hosted with leading organisations with demonstrated experience on sustainable value chains in the region.

The SGVC Forum is envisaged as a dedicated platform for experts, scholars and practitioners from and engaged in the Global South (and particularly this region) to share good practices, exchange candid perspectives and experiences, and collectively identify shared agenda to drive responsible and resilient value chains across the region. Over two days, sessions will cover issues including – sustainable finance; Pro-nature business; carbon markets; circular apparel and textiles; circular innovations; decent work, and digital technologies.

ABOUT THE ROUNDTABLE

The Sustainability Leaders Roundtable brings together a small, invited group of senior leaders from across business, government, international organisations, finance, civil society and academia for a reflective conversation at the close of the inaugural day's proceedings.

Its purpose is to move beyond the positions each institution holds publicly and get to the harder questions leaders are actually weighing – where sustainability sits in a period of value chain redesign, how the region navigates a fragmenting regulatory landscape, and what role the Asia Pacific should play in defining, rather than only implementing, the terms of responsible value chains.

Reflections from the hour will not only feed into the Forum's closing plenary but also help shape the agenda this platform carries forward, beyond Singapore – to its next destination in the region.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- As compliance and due diligence frameworks focusing on climate adaptation and resilience; nature and biodiversity conservation; human development; labour rights, etc. become more complex and contested globally, what would give businesses and industry stakeholders in the region greater clarity and confidence to remain actively engaged on them?
- With carbon increasingly priced into trade, what role could the Asia Pacific play in shaping how ethical carbon markets evolve and remain effective in the region? What checks and balances are needed, and how might they be implemented?
- Artificial intelligence (AI) is fast becoming the layer through which value chains are being monitored, verified and managed. Where are opportunities for the region to also advocate integration of sustainability principles into design of AI solutions?
- The Asia Pacific is now a major consumption market, not only a supply base. How might the region use that demand-side influence to define what responsible value chains look like, especially for the young millennials and GenZ?

CONFIRMED LEADERS



Bratin Roy

Global Head of Decarbonization
and Chief Operating Officer –
Global Sustainability Business Unit
TÜV SÜD



Cherie Tan

Head of Venture
Development
Venture Dairy



Daphne Laan

Founding Partner
Planetir



Kamal Seth

Director, Global Palm Oil
WWF



Mei Tan

Chief Executive Officer
Asia Green Group



Nicole Rycroft

Executive Director
Canopy Planet



Nikita Asthana

Global Head, Sustainability
Finance (Vice President)
Olam Agri



Rijit Sengupta

Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Responsible
Businesss



Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan

Co-Chairperson, Centre for
Responsible Business
Professor, IIM Bangalore



Dr. Henry Chan

Senior Director of Strategic
Conservation Partnerships
WWF – Malaysia



Aarti Kapoor

Founder and Managing
Director
Embode



Yeoh Boon Heng

Deputy Director, Malaysia,
Singapore & Indonesia (Market
Transformation)
RSPO



Renukaprasad B

Associate Director–
Ventures
Good Business Labs



Sadaf Hosseini

Global Head of Partnerships
& Philanthropic Engagement
World Economic Forum



Stefano

Chief Executive Officer
Global Platform for
Sustainable Natural Rubber

This is a closed door, by invitation only event

11 September 2026

SESSION 1

Opportunities and Challenges in Mobilising Sustainable Finance to Meet Local Needs in the Asia Pacific Region

SESSION 2

Scaling Up Circular Success Stories and the Role of Government

SESSION 3

Decent Work and Global Value Chains in Asia Pacific: *Regulations, Trends, Challenges & Pathways to Practice*

SESSION 4

Nature-Positive Digital Technologies in the Asia Pacific Region

SESSION 5

The Singapore Value Chain Compact: *Turning Scope 3 Commitments into Supplier-Level Action across Asia*

Opportunities and Challenges in Mobilising Sustainable Finance to Meet Local Needs in the Asia Pacific Region

11 September 2026 | 9:30 am – 11:00 am

Co-Host



Canada

BACKGROUND

In addition to being a hotbed of industrial growth, trade and consumption, the Asia Pacific region also remains extremely vulnerable to sustainability and climate related challenges. Responsible for over 55% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the region plays a key role in keeping global warming within 1.5°C. The region's growing population of 4.7 billion people (as of 2022) makes up around 60% of the world's population. The APAC economy is also considered significantly more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change than other regions. It is estimated that the potential losses to regional GDP caused by climate hazards could reach US\$953 billion under the 1.5°C global temperature raise scenario, and US\$980 billion under the 2°C scenario or seismic-related disasters each month, on average, translating to approximately 3,200 deaths and US\$3.8 million in economic damages monthly¹⁴.

While some progress has been made in mobilising sustainable and climate finance in the region¹⁵, the 'gap' in financing remains significantly high, therefore underlining the need for innovation and collective actions to meet the current and future needs of people, nature and local economies here. The region has witnessed efforts across various levers including – enabling environment for inclusive growth through climate-responsive tax and investment policies, SDG-aligned public budgets, sustainability-linked bonds, etc¹⁶. Banks and businesses need to maintain the momentum towards net-zero commitments and implement credible transition pathways, especially to meet the needs of the majority of businesses in the region, which belong to the Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) category. As the supply of net-zero aligned financing increases, the demand side for this capital also needs to increase¹⁷. For this, projects, particularly in energy transition, green technologies, circular innovation, nature-based solution and inclusive growth are needed at sufficient scale and quality to balance the interest of investors and local priorities. SMEs in the Asia Pacific region can play an active role in attracting such capital especially to pursue their aspiration to better integrate into global value chains, across sectors.

Given the growing importance of the region as a leader in supporting trade and GVCs, creating an opportunity for learning and sharing experiences and perspectives on sustainable and inclusive finance especially to support SMEs from across the region, remains an imperative.

PLANNED SESSION

This session will contribute towards this discourse by convening senior experts and practitioners from FIs, MDBs, sustainable finance initiatives, private sector including SMEs and research – to examine the current need of the region from a sustainable and inclusive finance perspective, and enumerate some of the priorities to support transition towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and pursuing the (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement ambitions, with special attention to SMEs.

¹⁴<https://www.cdp.net/en/insights/financing-for-sustainable-infrastructure-a-guide-for-asia-pacific-cities>

¹⁵<https://www.eco-business.com/news/asia-pacific-a-bright-spot-for-sustainable-finance-in-2026-ing>

¹⁶<https://sdgfinance.undp.org/where-we-work/asia-pacific>

¹⁷UNESCAP (2023), 'Sustainable Finance: Bridging the gap in Asia and the Pacific'

OBJECTIVES

- To explore policy and regulatory reform priorities to spur sustainable and inclusive financing especially for SMEs across sectors in the region
- To discuss key success factors for sustainable and inclusive projects that balances the needs of investors and project developers
- To assess existing experiences in financing SMEs, start-ups, small-holders collectives and other small economic actors in the region

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
9:30 am – 9:35 am	Welcome Remarks CRB
9:35 am – 9:45 am	Special Remarks IDRC Representative
9:45 am – 10:45 am	Panel Discussion Moderator Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan, Co-Chairperson CRB, Professor, IIM Bangalore Panellists • Ellis Savva, Head of Sustainable Finance & Transition, HSBC Singapore • Cherie Tan, Head of Venture Development, Venture Dairy Fund • Nirnita Talukdar, Regional Lead – Asia Pacific, UNEP-FI • Christina Gonzales, Director Impact and ESG, Circulate Capital • Frédérique Glazener, Regional Lead, Programmes, GROW Asia • Dr. Allinnettes Adigue, Head, ASEAN Regional Hub, Global Reporting Initiative
10:45 am – 10:55 am	Audience Q&A
10:55 am – 11:00 am	Closing Remarks

Scaling Up Circular Success Stories and the Role of Government

11 September 2026 | 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Co-Host



ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific



ESCAP Sustainable Business Network

BACKGROUND

The transition to a circular economy is increasingly important for the Asia-Pacific region as countries seek to achieve economic growth while reducing pressure on natural resources, minimizing waste and pollution, addressing climate change, and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Opportunities for greater circularity exist across virtually every sector of the economy, from food and agriculture, plastics and packaging, and textiles and apparel to construction, manufacturing, electronics, and other major material-consuming industries. Across these sectors, circular approaches can help keep products and materials in use for longer, recover valuable resources, strengthen supply chain resilience, create new business opportunities and jobs, and contribute to sustainable and inclusive development. Textiles and apparel are particularly relevant to this transition given the Asia-Pacific region's central role in global fiber production, manufacturing, exports, and consumption, as well as the sector's significant environmental footprint and growing volumes of textile waste. While businesses and other stakeholders across the region are already demonstrating promising circular solutions, realizing their full potential will require moving beyond individual projects and success stories toward solutions that can be replicated and scaled across markets, sectors, and countries.

Across the Asia-Pacific region, businesses and other stakeholders are already demonstrating circular economy solutions that can reduce waste, keep materials in use, and create new economic opportunities. However, moving from successful projects and initiatives to solutions that can operate at scale remains a major challenge. Barriers can include access to finance, insufficient demand, limited collection and sorting systems, infrastructure gaps, and policy and regulatory constraints. This session will bring together business leaders with experience developing and implementing circular solutions across different sectors to share what has worked, what challenges they have encountered in scaling up, and what is needed to overcome them. Particular attention will be given to the role of government in creating the enabling conditions for scale, including through supportive policies and regulations, procurement, infrastructure, and mobilization of investment. Through these success stories and lessons learned, the session will explore how businesses, governments, and other stakeholders can work together to move circular solutions from promising initiatives toward wider adoption and impact.

SESSION OBJECTIVES

Participants in the session will walk away with the following:

- An introduction to the UN ESCAP Sustainable Business Network Circular Economy Task Force and its goals
- Understand the current status of circularity for textiles and apparel in the Asia-Pacific region (challenges, policy landscape, business solutions).
- Learn about circular solutions and success stories in the Asia-Pacific region and what needs to be done to scale them up and how governments can support.

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
11:15 am – 11:25 am	Welcome Remarks (Presentation of the ESNB Circular Economy Task Force) Ryan Carvalho, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of Trade, Investment and Innovation Division - ESCAP
11:25 am – 11:40 am	Launch of the Textiles and Apparel Circular Economy Position Paper Piya Kerdlap, Founder and Managing Director PXP Sustainability
11:40 am – 11:45 am	Position paper Q&A
11:45 am – 12:30 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Piya Kerdlap, Founder and Managing Director PXP Sustainability Panellists • Olivia Oo, Managing Director, CIRC • Asif Ibrahim, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry • Esther An, Chief Sustainability Officer, City Developments Limited
12:30 pm – 12:40 pm	Panel Q&A
12:40 pm – 12:45 pm	Closing Remarks Ryan Carvalho, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of Trade, Investment and Innovation Division - ESCAP

Decent Work and Global Value Chains in Asia Pacific

Regulations, Trends, Challenges & Pathways to Practice

11 September 2026 | 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Co-Host



BACKGROUND

In the last couple of decades, human rights and environmental due diligence have gained significant importance in the South Asia and Southeast Asian regions. These regions remain the leading network of production and resources contributing to trade and global value chains across sectors. Historically, buyers and brands have used codes of conduct and certifiable standards to select and prioritise suppliers and manufacturers they can work with. Concurrently, national governments have also strengthened national regulations through mandatory due diligence laws, regulations and guidelines, including National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP), as mandated for signatories of the UN Guiding Principle on Business and Human Rights.

In South Asia, India moved from voluntary sustainability disclosures to mandatory sustainability disclosures including specific disclosures on decent work¹⁸, while Nepal and Pakistan launched their NAP to underscore commitments towards responsible business and human rights¹⁹. Bangladesh, on the other hand, launched multiple initiatives with diverse stakeholders to improve working conditions in the Ready Made Garment (RMG) supply chains²⁰, especially after the Rana Plaza disaster of 2013²¹.

In Southeast Asia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia launched their NAPs²² and advanced their position by launching multistakeholder consultations to deliberate human rights/ environment due diligence guidelines and frameworks. In 2025, South Korea became the first Southeast Asian State to signal mandatory corporate responsibility for human rights and environment²³. If passed, South Korean companies (beyond certain threshold) will be expected to conduct due diligence, report and ensure compliances across their supply chains.

More than half of the global labour force resides in the Asia Pacific region²⁴. East Asia and Pacific alone accounts for over 1.2 billion of total labour force participation²⁵, while South Asia accounts for over 709 million total labour force²⁶. Owing to the grandeur of Asia Pacific's labour force participation, emerging legal domestic decent work guidelines/ frameworks, international standards, trade shifts and disruptors like Artificial Intelligence, it is crucial to unpack trends and expectations from the lens of pragmatism and domestic realities. APAC economies continue to consolidate as important trade and manufacturing hubs in global value chains. A need has emerged to transition from a purely compliance driven approach to that of shared responsibility in achieving decent work standards in the region.

Therefore, practitioners from the region must come together and underline the importance of a balanced discourse on decent work that considers local realities, including socio-economic and cultural nuances, while aligning with global standards.

¹⁸Business Responsibility & Sustainability Report launched by SEBI in 2022 mandated top 1000 listed companies to publish annual sustainability reports extending to their supply chains.

¹⁹The NAP related information can be found at: [National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights](#)

²⁰Details on ILO's initiatives can be found at: [Advancing Decent Work in Bangladesh | International Labour Organization](#)

²¹<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-22476774>

²²The NAP related information can be found at: [National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights](#)

²³[ASSESSMENT OF INDONESIA'S LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN CORPORATE SETTINGS | Indonesian Law Journal](#)

²⁴[Employment in the Asia-Pacific region - statistics & facts | Statista](#)

²⁵Per World Bank 2025 Data: [Labor force, total - East Asia & Pacific | Data](#)

²⁶Per World Bank 2025 Data: [Labor force, total - South Asia | Data](#)

SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Highlight Global & Domestic Regulatory Developments: Unpack global standards and frameworks vis-à-vis domestic labour laws, due diligence requirements and regulatory expectations.
- Transition from Compliance driven approach to Shared Responsibility: Buyers/Brands and Suppliers/Manufacturers collaborate to achieve acceptable standards and shared vision of decent work, by moving away from a pure top-down compliance driven approach
- Explore Challenges: Deliberate challenges such as informal workforce, migrant vulnerabilities, practical gaps owing to socio-economic and cultural nuances.
- Showcase Good Practices: Spotlight examples and good practices of labour, employment and decent work practices.
- Foster Dialogue & Collaboration: Encourage cross learning and collaboration to scale pragmatic solutions and dialogues.

SESSION OUTPUT

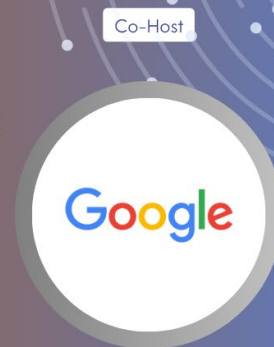
- Prioritization of issues and pragmatic interventions pertaining to decent work and employment in the APAC region.
- Identification of common opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
1:30 pm – 1:35 pm	Welcome Remarks CRB
1:35 pm – 1:40 pm	Context Setting
1:40 pm – 2:30 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Neha Tomar, Assistant Director, CRB Panellists • Aarti Kapoor, Founder and Managing Director, Embode • Prof. Sanchita B Saxena, Senior Academic Fellow, UC Berkeley Center for Law and Business • Shylaja Devi Vasudevan Nair, Head of Group Sustainability Compliance & Upstream Malaysia, SD Guthrie Berhad • Renukaprasad B, Associate Director- Ventures, Good Business Labs • Dr. Janvi Gandhi Kanakia, Regional Coordinator, HomeNet South Asia
2:30 pm – 2:50 pm	Floor Discussion
2:50 pm – 3:00 pm	Closing Remarks

Nature-Positive Digital Technologies in the Asia Pacific Region

11 September 2026 | 3:15 pm – 4:45 pm



BACKGROUND

The recently published Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) draft report of the global stocktake of progress under the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) doesn't paint a happy picture. The draft to be tabled and discussed at the next CBD Conference of Parties (COP) in Yerevan in October 2026 – underlines that while there has been unprecedented collective interest across stakeholders on protecting and restoring biodiversity and natural resources, the overall progress remains mediocre vis-à-vis both the 2030 and the 2050 targets. It is not surprising that the report draws attention to the fact that Governments cannot implement the framework by themselves and need a whole-of-society approach, with strong private sector engagement as an urgent need²⁷.

The Asia Pacific region is endowed with rich natural resource base. The region has the world's highest mountains and deepest ocean floors, as well as vast alluvial plains, coastal and arid landscapes, innumerable small and large islands. It hosts a high number of endemic species and unique ecosystems of tremendous biological diversity, containing 17 of the 36 global biodiversity hotspots and 7 of the 17 megadiverse countries. It has the greatest marine diversity globally, with half of the world's largest islands and the longest and most diverse coral reef systems in the world and more than half of the world's remaining mangrove areas²⁸.

The region has emerged as a hotbed of digital and emerging technologies and innovations over the last few decades and attracted global attention and investments. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has observed while digital technology has boosted growth, expanded opportunities, and improved government services across Asia and the Pacific – there is a further need to woo investments given the socio-economic and environmental developmental needs in the region. ADB underlines that use of big data and the rise of online platforms have accelerated deployment of digital technologies over the past decade or so in the region²⁹.

Given this tremendous potential, strategies for expanding the digital sector and investments in emergent technologies, should consider alignment with local social and environmental realities. A recent World Economic Forum report (end 2025) underlines a set of recommendations (below) for nature-positive digital businesses – could be a useful reference³⁰:

- Advance resilient and restorative water use
- Mitigate pollution and pursue circularity
- Tackle non-power operational and embodied emissions
- Promote land stewardship and restoration
- Power operations sustainably
- Engage with the supply chain
- Engage externally and support policymaking

²⁷UN CBD, Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, 2026 (<https://s3.amazonaws.com/cbdocuments-public-imagebucket-15w2zyxk3prl8/a61b896636c945199136ea9bef08b78b-3>)

²⁸SIDA, 'Biodiversity in the Asia/Pacific region 2021' (https://sidaenvironmenthelpdesk.se/sites/default/files/2024-12/Biodiversity%20in%20Asia-Pacific_web%20report%202021.pdf)

²⁹<https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/topics/digital-technology/overview#government>

³⁰WEF, 'Nature Positive: Role of the Technology Sector', 2025 (https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Nature_Positive_Role_of_the_Technology_Sector_2025.pdf)

Advancement in digital technology in the region can also play an important role in supporting pro-nature businesses strategies, viz. building data-driven traceable supply chains; creating real-life future scenarios to help track and mitigate major risks; and accelerate integration of nature positive business strategies. Finally, various digital tools and technologies have emerged/are emerging that can help monitor and assess the impact of projects on quality of local biodiversity, for example through conservation of habitats, and monitoring of endangered species³¹.

OBJECTIVES

- To discuss lessons from tech companies' experiences in addressing impacts on natural systems and their dependencies on ecosystems and biological diversity (including value chains)
- To explore policy and regulatory priorities for scaling up investments in innovative, biodiversity-friendly technologies in the region
- To deliberate opportunities for collaboration (including digital tech value chain) to drive nature positive innovations in digital technology for the region

POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- Evidences related to innovative and pro-nature digital tech from the region
- Set of policy and practice recommendations on pro-nature digital tech in the region

AGENDA

Time (Singapore Time)	Agenda Item
3:15 pm – 3:20 pm	Welcome Remarks CRB
3:20 pm – 3:30 pm	Context Setting
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Panel Discussion Moderator Rijit Sengupta, Chief Executive Officer, CRB Panellists • Richard Buck, Head of Strategy & Operations, Devices & Services (APAC), Google • Tamara Singh, Managing Director & Senior Adviser Regional Programmes - Asia Pacific, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) • Pallavi Kalita, Asia Lead for Business for Nature, Conservation International APAC • Dr. Simon JD Schillebeeckx, Assistant Professor, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Summary & Way Forward

³¹https://sustainability.google/reports/supply_chain_biodiversity_monitoring_manual/

The Singapore Value Chain Compact

Turning Scope 3 Commitments into Supplier-Level Action across Asia

11 September 2026 | 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Co-Host

Solidaridad

BACKGROUND

The Paris Agreement seeks to limit global warming to well below 2°C and pursue 1.5°C, global emissions continue to rise, with agriculture, forestry and other land use contributing about 22% of total emissions through deforestation, livestock methane, rice cultivation and fertiliser-related nitrous oxide. Historically, companies focused mainly on Scope 1 and 2 emissions, overlooking upstream emissions linked to smallholder farmers and agricultural production; yet Scope 3 can account for 70–90% of corporate emissions and is often several times larger than Scope 1 and 2 combined. It is therefore important for the companies to set a target and strategy for reduction of Scope 3 emissions and moving from broad commitments to verified, absolute reductions in supply-chain emissions.

Singapore is a major global hub for food trading, processing, manufacturing, logistics and agribusiness services. In fact, it was forecasted that Singapore will capture 30% of the global agricultural commodity in the coming time. Although domestic agriculture is small, Singaporean companies source food, feed, edible oils, grains, commodities and ingredients from global supply chains.

Among the agri food companies in Singapore, the Palm Oil sector is particularly significant. Eight of the world's 30 largest palm-oil trading companies were headquartered in Singapore and account for more than half of the global palm oil trade. Singapore-based businesses therefore have considerable influence over production landscapes and supply chains across Indonesia, Malaysia and other Asian markets

The main climate impact of these companies is often outside Singapore's territory, particularly at the farm, plantation, processing and transport stages. The sector is therefore important for Scope 3 emission reduction because its climate footprint is largely embedded in global agricultural supply chains rather than in domestic farming or company offices. Effective targets should therefore cover purchased commodities, land-use change, farmer practices, processing, logistics and waste—not only the company's direct energy consumption.

Singapore's climate-reporting requirements are becoming stricter. Strait Times Index constituent listed companies must report Scope 3 emissions for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2026. This increases demand for reliable data from suppliers and producers outside Singapore.

Given the growing importance of the region as a leader in supporting trade and Global Value Chains, creating an opportunity for learning and sharing experiences and perspectives on Scope 3 emissions of the food and agri companies across the region, remains an imperative. For Singapore's companies, robust Scope 3 accounting can identify upstream hotspots, guide sustainable procurement, support smallholder transition, reduce exposure to carbon pricing and supply-chain disruption, and strengthen progress towards credible net-zero targets

OBJECTIVES

The session aims to understand the following points:

- Approaches for achieving verified emissions reductions in upstream agricultural supply chains.
- The need for companies to obtain reliable primary emissions data from their supply chains.
- The role of transition finance in supporting suppliers and farmers to reduce emissions
- The need to measure and assess corporate performance in Scope 3 emissions reduction.

Speaker Profiles³²

1. Aarti Kapoor- Founder and Managing Director, Embode

Aarti Kapoor is the Founder and Managing Director of Embode, an independent human rights and social sustainability consultancy. She has over 30 years of professional experience, including more than two decades working on human rights issues, with particular expertise in forced labour, human trafficking and child exploitation. A qualified lawyer in England and Wales and New York, she has worked across government, NGOs and corporate organisations in the UK and Southeast Asia, as well as in Eastern Europe and Africa. Since founding Embode in 2015, Aarti has led work on labour rights, migration and human rights risks across agricultural and manufacturing supply chains, with a focus on practical, systems-based solutions.



2. Asif Ibrahim- Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Asif Ibrahim is Vice Chairman of Newage Group of Industries, a Bangladesh-based business group involved in manufacturing and exporting ready-made garments, textiles and plastic products. He is a former President of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Founder Chairman of Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD), a public-private dialogue platform focused on policy reform and improving the investment climate in Bangladesh. He has also been involved with the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association, including responsibility for sustainability-related initiatives. His work brings together perspectives from business, policy and industry on competitiveness and sustainable development.



3. Bratin Roy- Global Head of Decarbonization and Chief Operating Officer of the Global Sustainability Business Unit, TÜV SÜD

Bratin Roy is the Global Head of Decarbonisation at TÜV SÜD AG, where he leads the organisation's decarbonisation and sustainability work across five geographical regions. His expertise spans carbon management, renewable energy, emerging technologies including hydrogen and ammonia, green buildings and green financing. He has worked extensively with government bodies, regulators and private enterprises on sustainability and climate-related initiatives, and represents TÜV SÜD as a subject matter expert in technical forums and industry associations. His work also includes developing decarbonisation strategies, strengthening organisational capabilities and supporting the development of solutions related to climate action, clean energy and the transition to a low-carbon economy.



4. Cecilia Hough- Lead, Impact Management & Community Engagement, B Lab Singapore

Sustainability and impact professional with a multidisciplinary background spanning education, hospitality and the social sector. At B Lab Singapore, she leads impact management and community engagement, supporting businesses on impact measurement, stakeholder governance, ESG integration and the B Corp movement while fostering collaboration across the purpose-driven business ecosystem.



³²As of 5 September 2026

5. Cherie Tan- Head of Venture Development, Venture Dairy

Cherie Tan is an agriculture, food systems and sustainability leader with nearly two decades of experience across Asia. Her career includes senior roles at Rabobank, Unilever and Bayer Crop Science, spanning sustainable sourcing, smallholder development, public affairs and value-chain transformation.

She currently advises Venture Dairy, whose founding investors have backed successful dairy enterprises in India, including Akshayakalpa Organic. Cherie is supporting Venture Dairy's next phase: exploring a Singapore-based impact fund and a broader platform for investment, venture development and portfolio-building across South and Southeast Asia, with the aim of scaling commercially sustainable dairy businesses while strengthening value chains and smallholder livelihoods.



6. Chew Sutat- Chief Executive Officer, WWF-Singapore

Chew Sutat is Chief Executive Officer at WWF-Singapore, with extensive experience in leadership, governance and sustainability across both the public and private sectors. After more than 25 years in the corporate and financial sectors, Sutat serves as a non-executive director and trusted advisor to companies, start-ups, investment committees, foundations and non-profit organisations. His work is guided by a clear purpose: to synthesise people, planet and profit in pursuit of a sustainable world that thrives in solidarity. Sutat is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Directors and the Institute of Banking and Finance Singapore, and the immediate past Chairman of Community Chest. He received the Global Investor Asia Capital Markets Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021 and the Public Service Medal in 2023. An Oxford graduate, Sutat holds First Class Honours in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), as well as a Master of Arts.



7. Christina Gonzales - Impact and ESG Director, Circulate Capital

Christina is Circulate Capital's Impact and ESG Director. She is responsible for the application and maintenance of Circulate Capital's Environmental and Social Investment Policy, and for managing its impact framework. Christina is focused on driving leading practical applications of measuring the impact of circular economy solutions.

Christina brings with her over 15 years of international environmental consulting experience. Prior to joining Circulate Capital, Christina delivered environmental and social projects across various sectors, including infrastructure, power, oil and gas, mining, manufacturing and international finance institutions. She has in-country experiences in the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Laos, India, South Korea, Vietnam, China and Australia.



8. Daphne Laan - Founding Partner, Planetir

Daphne Laan is a Founding Steward of Planetir, an initiative focused on building an ecosystem that brings together people, businesses and resources in service of ecological and societal regeneration. Planetir describes its approach as one centred on stewardship, collaboration and creating conditions for positive change across generations. Its model seeks to connect diverse expertise and perspectives, while directing part of its revenues towards ecological and societal projects. Through her work with Planetir, Daphne contributes to an emerging approach to sustainability that considers environmental regeneration alongside social and economic transformation.



9. Devyani Hari- Senior Director, Centre for Responsible Business

Devyani Hari is Senior Director (Programmes) at Centre for Responsible Business (CRB). She has a postgraduate degree in finance and started her career with JP Morgan. She then moved into the field of sustainability through her work with renewable energy financing. She has tried her hand at entrepreneurship by setting up her own social enterprise and followed this up with a role in the development sector. In her previous role as a technical expert with GIZ, Ms. Hari was responsible for working with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and SME bankers to increase lending for sustainable investments. At CRB, she continues to focus on issues of sustainability especially pertinent to the SME sector, sustainability through global value chains, and the interface between SDGs and the private sector.



10. Dr. Allinnettes Adigue- Director, ASEAN Global Reporting Initiative

Dr. Allinnettes Go Adigue is the Head of the ASEAN Regional Hub of the Global Reporting Initiative. As Head of GRI's ASEAN Hub, Ally is tasked to promote the practice of sustainability reporting across Southeast Asia by working with relevant stakeholders to create a conducive policy environment for sustainable business practices, promote wider adoption of sustainability reporting and build the capacity of organizations in sustainability reporting. A lifelong learner and a global citizen, Ally has lived in 3 continents in the past 19 years. Prior to GRI, Ally has previously worked for the academe, and both the public and private sectors.



While working on her PhD, she worked as a graduate research assistant in the field of Climate Change Policy and Economics. She also worked in a retail electricity company in Singapore and for the Office of the President of the Philippines. Ally earned her PhD on Public Policy from the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University in 2017. She has two Masters degrees: one in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University, The Netherlands; and another in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore. She also has Bachelor's degrees in Law and Political Science.

11. Dr Amit Jain- Asia Board Member, Solidaridad

Amit Jain is a frontier markets specialist. He is widely considered as an authority on African issues in SE Asia. During his 25+ years career Amit has produced advisories, published articles, run leadership programs and managed difficult partnerships. He has mobilised private sector investments in value chain projects in Africa and served as an advisor to private and public sector clients. He is the author of Back to Growth: Priority Agenda for the Economic Revival of Nigeria, a much-publicised policy advisory report that lays out a three-phased sequential roadmap of reforms for Nigeria to sustain a 7%+ rate of GDP growth. In 2005, Amit was awarded the UK Panos GKP Award for his work on technology and democracy. Amit holds a degree in International Studies as well as a Post Graduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism. His expertise is in economic development, global value chains and the use of natural resources for sustainable development. He has worked on field assignments in difficult and sometimes unstable frontier markets such as Somaliland, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Myanmar, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Tunisia, Iran and even North Korea.



12. Dr. Céline Bilolo- Chief Sustainability Officer, TÜV SÜD

Dr. Céline Bilolo is the Chief Sustainability Officer at TÜV SÜD AG. In this capacity, she oversees TÜV SÜD's global sustainability services and drives ongoing enhancements to the company's environmental and social impact. Dr. Bilolo, a former sustainability management consultant and investment manager, brings extensive experience in establishing sustainability organizations and managing diverse sustainability projects to her new role. Throughout her career, she has supported companies of varying sizes and public institutions in regulatory initiatives, gaining international exposure. Before joining TÜV SÜD, Dr. Bilolo oversaw investments in social enterprises across sub-Saharan Africa for a global pharmaceutical company's impact investment fund. She holds a business administration degree with a major in finance from Augsburg University and an MBA from the University of Dayton (USA). Additionally, she completed her doctorate on "Legitimacy, Public Value & Capital Allocation" with honors at the University of St. Gallen and the Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford.



13. Dr. Henry Chan- Senior Director of Strategic Conservation Partnerships, WWF-Malaysia

Dr. Henry Chan is Senior Director of Strategic Conservation Partnerships at WWF-Malaysia. His work focuses on developing strategic partnerships that connect conservation priorities with business, policy and broader sustainable development objectives. He works with stakeholders across sectors to strengthen approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable landscapes. His role includes supporting collaboration between conservation organisations and businesses on initiatives that seek to protect nature while strengthening the resilience of communities and value chains. Henry is part of WWF-Malaysia's senior leadership team and has contributed to initiatives linking conservation, responsible production and nature-positive approaches in Malaysia.



14. Dr. Simon JD Schillebeeckx- Assistant Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University

Dr. Simon J.D. Schillebeeckx is Assistant Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University. His research focuses on the intersection of digitisation, innovation and sustainability, including the ways digital technologies can support sustainable development and new business models. Prior to joining SMU, he completed his PhD in Management at Imperial College London and worked in sustainable innovation consulting. Simon is also a co-founder and Non-Executive Director of the Global Mangrove Trust, which supports large-scale mangrove restoration initiatives, and has been involved in developing digital approaches to environmental monitoring and carbon-related systems. He also serves as an Expert Delegate at the Digital Education Council, contributing his expertise at the intersection of technology, innovation and sustainability.



15. Dr. Sonja Stuchtey- Founder and CEO, The Landbanking Group

Sonja is an accomplished professional with broad experience in entrepreneurship and technology. She started her career as a business consultant at Booz Allen and shifted her focus toward her own business ventures. Her founding of SCIENCE LAB, an education platform, and Alliance for Europe, a civil tech company, demonstrates her commitment to leveraging technology for social impact. As a director at AlixPartners, she specialized in enterprise improvement and innovation. She further promotes responsible business through her roles on the Capitals Coalition supervisory board and as Chair of the Board of Alliance 4 Europe. Sonja earned her PhD from the Technical University of Munich with research on organisational excellence. The Landbanking Group represents her latest and most ambitious venture –a Nature-Fintech company with the transformative mission of integrating natural capital into financial systems and fostering an asset class of Nature without ownership of the underlying land. As an author, Sonja has contributed significant publications across nature technology, economic development, and science education– establishing herself as not merely a practitioner but a thought leader shaping these converging fields. She has been named by Reuters a Trailblazing Woman in Climate in 2024 and is nominated for the Fin-Erth Awards 2026.



16. Ellis Savva-Head of Sustainable Finance and Transition for Singapore, HSBC

Ellis Savva is Head of Sustainable Finance and Transition at CIB Singapore, having previously served as Senior Manager, Sustainable Finance Origination and Structuring, and spent over a decade in FIG DCM Origination. Ellis is also a Committee Member of the Sustainability Committee at the British Chamber of Commerce Singapore. Ellis holds an MSc in Financial Economics from the University of Oxford and a BSc in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Ellis has also undertaken executive education in sustainable finance and climate change, including programmes at the University of Oxford and Imperial College Business School. Ellis's areas of expertise include sustainable finance, capital markets, investment banking, financial modelling, valuation, derivatives, and financial analysis.



17. Esther An- Chief Sustainability Officer, City Developments Limited

Esther An is Chief Sustainability Officer at City Developments Limited (CDL), where she has played a leading role in shaping the company's sustainability strategy since 1995. A pioneer of corporate sustainability in Singapore, she has led initiatives spanning sustainability reporting, stakeholder engagement, green building and sustainable finance. She spearheaded Singapore's first corporate sustainability report and CDL's first green bond issuance. Esther was recognised as a 2018 UN Global Compact SDG Pioneer for Green Infrastructure and a Low-Carbon Economy. She is also involved with several international sustainability organisations and founded the Women4Green network to encourage greater participation of women in sustainability and climate action.



18. Frederique Glazener - Regional Lead Programs, GrowAsia

Frédérique is the Regional Lead of Programs at Grow Asia, where she works with partners across sectors to advance more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agricultural systems in Southeast Asia.

She is a sustainability leader with deep experience in responsible food and agricultural supply chains. Prior to joining Grow Asia, Frederique worked at Albert Heijn, the largest food retailer in the Netherlands, where she led social and environmental risk management strategies across global value chains, including soy, palm oil, cocoa, coffee, and seafood. Her work focused on translating complex sustainability challenges into practical, scalable action in partnership with suppliers, NGOs, and industry initiatives. She also played a key role in Albert Heijn becoming the world's first major supermarket chain to achieve B Corp certification, helping embed social and environmental performance into the company's core business strategy.

Frédérique holds a Master's degree in Business & Sustainability and is passionate about the future of food and agriculture. Curious by nature, she is especially motivated by working across cultures and sectors to build more inclusive and resilient food systems.



19. Dr. Janvi Gandhi Kanakia- Regional Coordinator, HomeNet South Asia

Dr. Janvi is a poised, social impact professional with over a decade of global experience across research, strategy, and impact measurement in the social sector. She holds a Ph.D. from Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao where she was an Erasmus scholar. Her research and publications examine female labour force participation, out-migration patterns, the informal labour economy, new technologies and policy implications in India & South Asia. Her work is grounded in a strong interest in how research and evidence can inform policy and programmes. She currently serves as Regional Coordinator at HomeNet South Asia, leading fundraising, partnerships, and organisational management.



20. Joanna Tan- Head of Fundraising (Asia), New Forests

Joanna Tan is Head of Fundraising (Asia) in New Forests, based in Singapore. She is responsible for leading engagement and fundraising efforts with investors across Asia to build awareness and understanding of the investment opportunities within the nature-based solutions asset class.

She plays a key role in product development, helping to design innovative investment strategies that incorporate blended finance, carbon credits, and measurable impact objectives. Joanna is particularly skilled at translating complex nature-based investment concepts into clear, compelling propositions, enabling investors to understand the critical role these solutions play in addressing climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development challenges. Joanna has a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Science from the University of Melbourne, Australia.



21. Joshua Wickerham- Senior Advisor, Outreach and Engagement, ISEAL

Joshua Wickerham is Senior Advisor, Outreach and Engagement at ISEAL, where he works with government, business and civil society leaders to strengthen sustainability policies and practices. He has been engaged with ISEAL for more than 15 years, initially working with the organisation to develop more sustainable trade strategies and subsequently supporting its growing network of sustainability systems and stakeholders. His work focuses on outreach, engagement and the practical application of



credible sustainability approaches. Joshua brings experience in connecting sustainability standards, trade and policy, with a particular interest in strengthening the contribution of voluntary sustainability systems to more responsible global value chains.

22. Kamal Seth-Director, Global Palm Oil, WWF

Kamal Seth is Director of Global Palm Oil at WWF, where he works on advancing more sustainable and responsible palm oil value chains. His work involves engaging businesses, governments and other stakeholders to address environmental and social challenges associated with palm oil production and sourcing. He has been actively involved in strengthening sustainable palm oil approaches in India and across the region, including work related to responsible sourcing, traceability and collaboration across the value chain. Kamal brings experience in facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue and supporting the transition towards more responsible commodity production systems.



23. Kenny Kesar- Global Chief Information Officer, Wipro Limited

Kenny Kesar is the Global Chief Information Officer of Wipro Limited, leading the company's global technology strategy, digital transformation, enterprise systems, and innovation agenda. With extensive leadership experience across Wipro, SAP, Oracle, and GE HealthCare, he brings deep expertise in enterprise architecture, ERP and cloud modernization, AI adoption, and operational excellence. As CIO, Kenny is focused on harnessing emerging technologies, simplifying the technology landscape, and enabling seamless digital experiences to accelerate innovation and deliver measurable business value across Wipro's global operations.



24. Katia Daude Goncalves- Country Manager for Singapore, Malaysia & Brunei, IFC

Katia Daude Gonçalves is Country Manager for Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank Group institution focused on private-sector development in emerging markets. In this role, she works with regional investment and advisory teams to strengthen cross-border investment and capital mobilisation between Singapore-based companies and financial institutions and emerging markets. She also supports the development of IFC's investment and advisory portfolio in Malaysia and Brunei. Her work brings together finance, private-sector development and sustainability, with a focus on mobilising capital and partnerships that can contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic growth.



25. Khushboo Oswal- Global Head of Carbon Management, TÜV SÜD

Khushboo Oswal is Global Head of Carbon Management at TÜV SÜD, where she leads climate and carbon management initiatives across international markets. Her work focuses on strengthening the credibility of greenhouse gas reporting, carbon management and climate action while supporting organisations in navigating evolving global standards. She has close to a decade of experience with TÜV SÜD and has previously worked across engineering and infrastructure-related sectors. Her expertise includes life-cycle assessment, greenhouse gas verification and carbon-related standards. Khushboo combines a technical background in production and mechanical engineering with expertise in sustainability and public policy, supporting businesses in developing practical approaches to decarbonisation.



26. Kim Wolf – Founder & Principal Consultant, Woptag

Kim is a passionate sourcing executive with 20+ years of growth and success in the apparel industry. He has proven ability to develop market-leading opportunities from vision through execution and is skilled in new business development, revenue growth, efficiency and cost reduction within supply chain management. He is well-known in building high performance industry partners, outstanding teams and introducing new innovative production technologies and processes to exceed KPI goals. He also serves as the Advisor Board Member at Vector 10, International where he is Guiding Vector 10's mission to bridge innovation and industry, enabling scalable, commercially-ready sustainable textile and material technologies. He is also the Managing Director of Aiko Ltd, Hong Kong & Aiko Textile Pte. Ltd., Singapore, where he is Championing breakthrough digital creation and direct-to-print automation technologies to transform denim production and adjacent categories.



27. Mei Tan- Chief Executive Officer, Asia Green Group

Meeydz (Mei) Tan is the CEO of Asia Green Group and a second-generation business leader driving the transformation of her family business from a traditional property developer into an ecology-conscious ecosystem group of companies. Guided by the philosophy of Truth, Light & Justice (TLJ), she champions regenerative development, conscious leadership, and future-ready communities. Through initiatives including Asia Green Ecological Township, One Haven, One Garden, One Sanctuary.



28. Naveen Sainani- Hon.Gen.Secretary & ESG Sub Committee, The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India

Naveen Sainani is the Honorary General Secretary of the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) and serves on its ESG Sub-Committee. CMAI is one of India's leading industry associations representing the apparel sector, with a broad membership across manufacturers, exporters and other industry stakeholders. Through his work with CMAI, Naveen contributes to industry dialogue on competitiveness, sustainability and the evolving requirements facing India's apparel sector. His engagement with ESG issues reflects the growing importance of responsible production, environmental performance and social considerations for Indian clothing manufacturers participating in domestic and international value chains.



29. Neha Tomar- Assistant Director, Centre for Responsible Business

Neha is Assistant Director at the Centre for Responsible Business. She is a Lawyer with a Masters in International Law (University of Bristol, United Kingdom). Neha has been in the development sector for over nine years and has keen interest in policy, planning and multistakeholder engagements. In her previous role she was deputed at the Ministry of Corporate Affairs by the United Nations Development Program to provide support in drafting of India's first National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. She has managed implementation of Centre Government Schemes, MPLAD funds and solid waste management projects for the Office of Member of Parliament – Ladakh. She also has experience in implementing multistakeholder projects in the Philippines, Ghana, and in India – Bihar and Rajasthan.



30. Nicole Rycroft- Founder and Executive Director, Canopy Planet

Nicole Rycroft is the Founder and Executive Director of Canopy, the award-winning not-for profit transforming the paper, packaging, and fashion industries to keep forests standing and scale low-carbon solutions. A former elite-level rower turned environmental leader, she brings creative determination to changing the systems driving deforestation and biodiversity loss. For nearly three decades, Nicole has led partnerships with global publishers, fashion houses, and brands to eliminate Ancient and Endangered Forests from paper, packaging, and textile supply chains. Under her leadership, Canopy has helped catalyze the protection of over 39 million hectares of forest and mobilized commitments from more than 1,000 companies representing over USD 2 trillion in annual revenue to shift toward circular, waste-based alternatives. Her work spans setting a new benchmark for responsible publishing through the Harry Potter book series to securing a landmark \$60M investment from The Audacious Project. In 2026, Canopy was named a World Economic Forum GAEA Award winner for Moving Business for Climate. Nicole is a TED speaker, Ashoka Fellow, UBS Global Visionary, and BoF 500 honoree.



31. Nikita Asthana- Global Head, Sustainability Finance (Vice President) , Olam Agri

Nikita Asthana is Global Head of Sustainability Finance at Olam Agri, where she works at the intersection of finance, sustainability and strategy in the food and agriculture sector. Her work focuses on integrating climate and nature-related risks into enterprise decision-making and advancing sustainability finance approaches. She leads work related to sustainability disclosures, natural capital valuation and the integration of sustainability considerations into business and financial strategy. A CFA charterholder and INSEAD MBA, Nikita also chairs the advisory group for the EU co-funded Project A-track, which seeks to accelerate business, finance and policy action towards nature-positive outcomes.



32. Nirnita Talukdar- Asia Pacific Lead, UNEP - FI

Nirnita Talukdar is the Asia Pacific Lead for UNEP FI (United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative), where she is responsible for advancing UNEP FI's regional strategy to mobilize sustainable finance across Asia-Pacific. In this role, she provides strategic guidance to financial institutions on aligning their business strategies with the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other global sustainability frameworks, while supporting their implementation within national and regional contexts. She also works closely with financial sector stakeholders to strengthen the enabling environment for sustainable finance across the region. With over 15 years of experience, Nirnita is a sustainable finance specialist with expertise in financial sector accountability and responsible banking. Her previous work has focused on the role of capital markets in supporting climate transitions and advancing sustainable finance policy and practice across Asia-Pacific. Nirnita has led research initiatives and co-authored publications on topics including Asian cross-border financial flows, the health and safety of migrant workers, and non-financial disclosure policies.



33. Olivia Oo- Managing Director, Asia, CIRC

Olivia Oo is Managing Director, Asia at Circ®, a company developing technology to recycle textile waste into new fibres and materials. She brings extensive experience across climate technology, sustainability and innovation in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to joining Circ, Olivia served as Head of APAC Partnerships at Breakthrough Energy, where she worked to accelerate climate innovation and build partnerships supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy. She has also held roles in sustainable



energy solutions and mobility. Her work focuses on building partnerships and scaling technologies that can contribute to decarbonisation and circularity, with particular relevance to Asia's rapidly evolving industrial and consumer landscape.

34. Pallavi Kalita- Asia Lead, Business for Nature, Conservation International APAC

Pallavi is the Asia Lead for Business for Nature, based at Conservation International Asia Pacific. She leads strategic partnerships and policy engagement across the region, working closely with governments, business associations, and companies to accelerate credible business action on nature and biodiversity. She has led key regional initiatives, including supporting the development of National Business and Biodiversity Action Plans in Indonesia and Malaysia. Earlier in her career, she worked on international trade policy with the EU Delegation to India and the British High Commission, as well as with leading Indian think tanks. She holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Warwick.



35. Parvinder Singh- Founder - GATS, Chief Executive Officer - Aadi Sustainability Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Parvinder Kadyan is the Founder of the Global Alliance for Textile Sustainability Council (GATS) and Chief Executive Officer of Aadi Sustainability Solutions Pvt. Ltd. His work focuses on advancing sustainability and circularity in the textile and apparel sector, with an emphasis on industry collaboration, innovation and capacity building. Through Aadi Sustainability Solutions and GATS, he works with manufacturers, academia, businesses and other stakeholders to support more responsible and resource-efficient textile value chains. He has also been involved in strengthening industry-academia collaboration and creating opportunities for young professionals and entrepreneurs to engage with sustainability challenges in manufacturing and the wider textile ecosystem.



36. Piya Kerdlap- Founder and Managing Director, PXP Sustainability

Piya Kerdlap is the Founder and Managing Director of PXP Sustainability, where he works on life-cycle assessment, circular economy, sustainable production and consumption, waste management, clean energy and industrial symbiosis across Southeast Asia. Before establishing PXP, Piya led research at the National University of Singapore and Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology on life-cycle environmental and financial analysis of waste-to-resource systems. His work has also included clean energy and international development projects covering solar mini-grids, rural electrification, smart grids and regulatory reform. He holds a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the National University of Singapore and is a Fulbright alumnus.



37. Prof. Sanchita B Saxena- Senior Academic Fellow, UC Berkeley Center for Law and Business

Dr. Sanchita Banerjee Saxena is a lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley, where she teaches on business, labour and global supply chains. She has more than two decades of experience researching labour rights in global supply chains, with a particular focus on the garment industry in Asia. Her work examines the relationship between labour regulation, business practices and global production systems. She is the author and editor of several books and publications on labour and garment supply chains and serves as a Senior Advisor to Article One, advising companies on responsible supply chains. Her research and teaching bring a strong



38. Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan- Co-Chairperson, Centre for Responsible Business, Professor, IIM Bangalore

Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan is a Professor in the Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management Area at IIM, Bangalore. At IIM Bangalore, she is also the Chairperson of Alumni Relations and Ethics and Code of Conduct. Prof. Srinivasan has a PGD in Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, XLRI, Jamshedpur and a Fellow Program in Management (PhD equivalent), IIM Bangalore. Prof. Srinivasan is on the Board of Advisors – National HRD Network Bangalore Chapter, Chairperson Fourth Wave Foundation, Bangalore and Board member of Enable India Bangalore, Member of the India leadership team of Globethics.net (Geneva based organization). She also runs a website www.teachcsr.com, which has about 900 members and promotes teaching in Business Ethics and CSR in India.



39. Rashyid Redza Anwarudin- Chief Sustainability Officer, SD Guthrie Berhad

Rashyid Redza Anwarudin is Chief Sustainability Officer at SD Guthrie Berhad, where he leads the organisation's sustainability direction and performance across its operations and global supply chain. He has years of experience in sustainability, corporate responsibility, strategy, programme management and change management across sectors including plantation, forestry, property, telecommunications, automotive and oil and gas. Before joining SD Guthrie, he held sustainability leadership and advisory roles, including at PwC Southeast Asia and Sime Darby Berhad. His current work includes responsible and ethical production, sustainable supply chains, climate action, biodiversity and engagement with stakeholders across the sustainable palm oil sector.



40. Renukaprasad B- Associate Director- Ventures, Good Business Labs

Renukaprasad B leads the technology and implementation portfolio at Good Business Lab (GBL), focusing on products and services that strengthen social sustainability in global supply chains. He leads the evolution of Inache, GBL's worker communication and grievance redressal platform, into an AI-powered workforce intelligence solution offering predictive insights, early warning systems and benchmarking to support human rights due diligence and responsible procurement. His work also involves developing scalable, user-centric SaaS solutions for multinational buyers and suppliers, with GBL's tools deployed across more than 100 factories and reaching over 480,000 workers and 1,000 management teams across South and Southeast Asia. He also leads GBL Ventures, supporting the translation of research and evidence into scalable solutions through grants and implementation partnerships.



41. Richard Buck- Head of Strategy & Operations, Devices & Services (APAC) , Google

Richard Buck is Head of Strategy and Operations for Devices & Services at Google. In this role, he works across strategy, operations and regional business priorities for Google's devices and services portfolio. His work involves supporting the development and implementation of strategies across a diverse and rapidly evolving Asia-Pacific market. His participation in the Forum brings a technology-sector perspective to discussions around the transformation of value chains, digitalisation and the role of technology in supporting more sustainable business practices.



42. Rijit Sengupta- Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Responsible Business

Rijit Sengupta is CEO of the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) – and has over twenty five years of work experience across Asia, Africa and Europe. His interest lies in the interface of business and society – particularly environment management, consumer protection, sustainable entrepreneurship, business regulation, responsible business conduct and SDGs. He has designed and implemented various projects/programmes on these topics in Sub-Saharan Africa; South Asian and South East Asian countries. Currently, while much of his work on sustainable business/SDGs is focused on India, he has also been engaged in: (i) advocating for balanced North-South dialogue on sustainability governance and (ii) exploring greater South-South cooperation and learnings on sustainable business. He enjoys researching, writing and engaging with a wide variety of stakeholders on these issues. He has a Master degree in Agriculture and a Postgraduate degree in Environment Management. He is an Alumnus of the University of Calcutta (India), Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management (India) and the United Nations University, Tokyo (Japan). He is Member, Advisory Board of the Trade for Sustainable Development programme (International Trade Centre, Geneva); Member, Advisory Committee, Consumer Information Programme, One Planet Network (UN Environment, Paris) and Member of the Board, Alliance for Water Stewardship (A4WS, Edinburgh).



43. Rueban Manokara- Director, Carbon Finance and Global Lead of the Carbon Finance and Markets Taskforce, WWF

Rueban Manokara is the Global Lead of the Carbon Finance and Markets Taskforce, WWF. He oversees the policy development and implementation efforts related to carbon finance within WWF's networks. Rueban also serves as a Technical Advisory Body member of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation, the carbon reduction programme administered by the UN's International Civil Aviation Organisation. Rueban previously served in the National Climate Change Secretariat in the Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office, Singapore as Singapore's lead negotiator for Article 6 at the UNFCCC and coordinated the development of Singapore's



44. Ryan Carvalho- Economic Affairs Officer, Office of Trade, Investment & Innovation Division, UN-ESCAP

Ryan Carvalho is an international development professional and Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP). Based in Bangkok, Thailand, he specializes in regional market integration, trade facilitation, and sustainable economic policy.



45. Sadaf Hosseini - Global Head of Partnerships & Philanthropic Engagement World Economic Forum

Sadaf Hosseini is the Global Head of Partnerships & Philanthropic Engagement at the World Economic Forum, where she works to build strategic partnerships and mobilise resources to advance innovation and sustainable development.

Through her work with UpLink, the World Economic Forum's innovation ecosystem, she has played a key role in developing partnerships across the corporate, public, and philanthropic sectors to support and scale early-stage, impact-driven ventures addressing global challenges. Her



work spans areas including climate and nature, sustainable development, innovation ecosystems, and cross-sector collaboration. Prior to this, Sadaf contributed to the World Economic Forum's business engagement across the Middle East and Africa, advising senior executives on corporate strategy and partnerships. She is a Global Leadership Fellow of the World Economic Forum and holds an MBA from the University of Nottingham and a Bachelor of Science in Physics.

46. Sebastien Cross- Founder and CIO, BeZero, UK

Sebastien Cross founded BeZero Carbon with Tommy Ricketts in 2020. As Chief Innovation Officer, he focuses on staying ahead of regulatory and market developments, identifying opportunities to enhance BeZero's analytical and product offering as the carbon markets evolve. Prior to founding BeZero Carbon, Sebastien worked in research at Bank of America, focusing on fixed income markets. He began his career as an economist at the Bank of England. He has an MSc in Finance & Economics from Warwick Business School and a BA in Economics from the University of Sheffield.



47. Shombi Sharp-Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations ESCAP

Shombi Sharp is the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), bringing more than 25 years of experience in advancing inclusive and sustainable development internationally. Prior to his current role, he served as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in India and, earlier, as UN Resident Coordinator in Armenia. He has held several senior leadership positions with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), including roles in Armenia, Georgia, Lebanon, Russia, the Western Balkans, and across Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Throughout his career, Shombi has worked across sustainable development, economic and social policy, partnerships, and international cooperation.

He began his development career with CARE International in Zimbabwe and is also a published author in health economics. He holds a master's degree in economics from the University of Colorado and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Kansas.



48. Shylaja Devi Vasudevan Nair- Head of Group Sustainability Compliance & Upstream Malaysia, SD Guthrie Berhad

Shylaja Devi Vasudevan Nair is the Head of Group Sustainability Compliance & Upstream Malaysia at SD Guthrie Berhad, bringing extensive experience in sustainability, environmental management, and responsible business practices within the palm oil sector. Her work focuses on strengthening sustainability compliance across operations, including responsible labour practices, worker engagement, social dialogue, gender inclusion, and adherence to sustainability standards. She has contributed to industry initiatives addressing responsible recruitment and the protection of migrant workers, while supporting systems that enable meaningful worker-employer engagement.

Shylaja has also represented the Malaysian palm oil grower sector in the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) Standards Review Task Force, contributing to the development and review of sustainability standards for the sector.



49. Stefano Savi- Chief Executive Officer, Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

A multi-stakeholder initiative aiming to address sustainability issues in the natural rubber supply chain. Before this, Stefano was the Global Outreach and Engagement Director for the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, overseeing the design and implementation of the RSPO Global Outreach and Engagement strategy. A Physics graduate, Stefano believes in building conditions for people to act freely and creatively, so that they can co-create a path forward. He believes success is the next step together in the right direction



50. Tajeshwar Goyal- Market Engagement Lead (APAC) | Secretariat, Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures

Tajeshwar is a seasoned banker and climate finance expert with over 15 years of experience. Most recently, he worked at UBS across investment banking and wealth management, advising HNW and UHNW clients and driving strategy and business development. He has delivered technical assistance to multinational development banks on asset allocation, frameworks, and taxonomy alignment, supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy. He currently leads market engagement for the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) across APAC and the Middle East, working with financial institutions, corporates, investors and other stakeholders to advance the adoption of nature-related financial disclosures.



51. Tamara Singh- Managing Director, Singapore and Senior Advisor, Regional Programs, The Nature Conservancy

Tamara Singh is Managing Director for The Nature Conservancy Singapore and Senior Advisor, Regional Programs in Asia Pacific. She earned her stripes at Centrica Plc, BP Oil International, Deutsche Bank and Macquarie Bank, before returning home to Singapore, having led teams across energy and financial services, governing trading floors in London, New York and Asia Pacific. On home ground, Ms. Singh served Westpac Banking Corporation and then her country. Whilst supporting GIC's mandate for the nation, she contributed to digital transformation, innovation and sustainability initiatives, building relationships across the financial ecosystem worldwide. This ignited her to structure a career centred on enabling sustainable organizations to scale, while championing impactful change.



52. Tatheer Zaidi- Asia head - Pollution Management in MSMEs, Solidaridad

Tatheer Zaidi is the Asia Head – Pollution Management in MSMEs at Solidaridad Asia, where he leads initiatives focused on advancing environmental sustainability, resource efficiency, and cleaner production across MSME-intensive sectors.

With extensive experience in pollution management and sustainable industrial development, he has played a key role in developing and scaling techno-commercially viable solutions for the leather and textile sectors, including interventions around water efficiency, waste management, circularity, cleaner technologies, and waste-to-value approaches. His work emphasises collaboration between industry, government, civil society, and technical experts to accelerate the adoption of sustainable practices.

Through his work at Solidaridad, Tatheer has contributed to programmes aimed at strengthening the competitiveness of MSMEs while reducing their environmental footprint and enabling the transition towards more resource-efficient and circular production systems.



53. Ting Ting Zhang- Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Fashion Council

Zhang Ting-Ting is a familiar face to many as she has been serving as the Director of Sustainability since she first joined Singapore Fashion Council in September 2023. In just six months, her exceptional leadership and vision have propelled her into a more prominent role as the Chief Executive Officer. Her rapid advancement reflects her deep commitment to sustainable fashion and her ability to drive impactful change.

With a diverse background in architecture, design, supply chain, and e-commerce and with experience in global organisations as well as dynamic start-ups, Ting-Ting previously held significant roles in global sourcing strategy at Li & Fung, a renowned fashion retail and supply chain conglomerate based in Hong Kong. Prior to that, she gained invaluable experience and training at Zaha Hadid Architects in London, where she focused on pivotal cultural projects.



54. Boon-Heng Yeoh- Deputy Director, Malaysia, Singapore & Indonesia (Market Transformation), RSPO

Boon-Heng Yeoh is an experienced business leader with over 20 years of experience in sales, business development, and strategic leadership across Southeast Asia and the wider Asia-Pacific region. He is currently associated with the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), bringing extensive experience in leading teams, driving business transformation, and managing cross-market initiatives.

Prior to joining RSPO, Boon-Heng held senior leadership roles with SC Johnson Professional, including serving as General Manager, where he led business growth and strategic initiatives across the region.

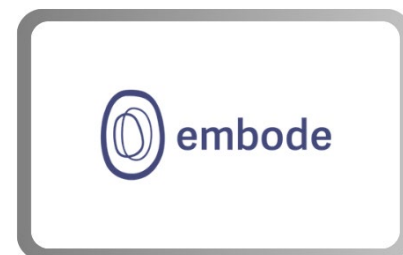
A graduate of the University of Western Australia, Boon-Heng is recognised for his collaborative and people-focused leadership approach, with experience spanning sales strategy, organisational transformation, cross-functional collaboration, and regional market development.



Partner profiles

Embode

Embode is an Asia-based independent human rights and social sustainability consulting agency founded in 2015. With a global reach across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, Embode works across business responsibility, supply chain sustainability, social protection and development. Its work focuses on strengthening responsible business practices and advancing human rights through practical approaches that respond to local contexts. Embode brings together expertise in international and national frameworks on human rights, corporate responsibility and social development, supporting organisations in addressing social risks and building more sustainable and inclusive value chains. Its work is grounded in the belief that businesses, workers and communities share responsibility for creating systems that respect people and promote wellbeing.



Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

GRI is an independent, international nonprofit organisation that develops and promotes global standards for sustainability reporting. Founded in 1997, GRI works through a multi-stakeholder approach involving businesses, investors, policymakers, civil society, labour organisations and other experts. Its GRI Standards provide a common framework for organisations to understand and report their impacts on the economy, environment and people, supporting greater transparency and accountability. GRI also works through regional networks and provides tools, training and other resources to strengthen sustainability reporting practices. Its work aims to advance accountability and enable organisations and stakeholders to make more informed decisions in support of sustainable development.



Google

Google is a global technology company providing products, platforms and digital services used by people and organisations around the world. Its work spans information and knowledge, computing, artificial intelligence, research and digital tools that support businesses, communities and consumers. Sustainability is integrated across Google's products, research, partnerships and operations, with efforts focused on clean energy, water stewardship, resource efficiency, circularity, nature and biodiversity. Through technology and innovation, Google also develops solutions intended to help individuals, businesses and communities make more sustainable choices and address environmental challenges. Its approach combines the development of technology with efforts to reduce the environmental footprint of its own operations and supply chain.



Inache, by Good Business Lab:

Developed by Good Business Lab (GBL), a research non-profit working to improve the lives of low-income workers, Inache is a two-way, anonymised worker-voice tool built for the factory floor. Workers can report grievances, concerns or suggestions through a simple SMS or voice call, which are routed to a dedicated management team for resolution, addressing the trust and communication gaps that leave many workplace concerns unheard, particularly among women and migrant workers. Evaluation of Inache in India's garment sector found that it resolved the large majority of worker concerns while improving retention, attendance and productivity, offering a scalable model for worker communication across labour-intensive value chains.



IDRC-CRDI (International Development Research Centre, Government of Canada)

Established by an act of Canada's Parliament in 1970, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Canadian Crown corporation that funds and champions research to help developing countries and regions find practical solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges. Headquartered in Ottawa with regional offices including one in New Delhi, IDRC's current priorities span climate-resilient food systems, sustainable and inclusive economies, and democratic and inclusive governance, among others. As part of Canada's international development engagement, IDRC invests in locally led research and connects researchers, policymakers and innovators across the Global South to advance evidence-based, long-term solutions.



SD Guthrie Berhad

SD Guthrie is a global agribusiness and palm oil company with a long history in plantation, refining and downstream activities. It is one of the world's leading producers of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO), with operations across Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, alongside downstream and international operations. Its sustainability approach addresses climate, biodiversity, labour, human rights and responsible sourcing, with an increasing focus on innovation and technology to improve agricultural productivity and environmental performance. Through its work with growers, suppliers, customers and other stakeholders, SD Guthrie seeks to strengthen traceable and responsible palm oil value chains while advancing nature restoration, responsible production and sustainable livelihoods.



Singapore Fashion Council (SFC)

Formerly known as the Textile and Fashion Federation (Singapore), the Singapore Fashion Council is the official association representing Singapore's textile and fashion industry. With a vision of positioning Singapore as a vibrant Asian hub for responsible fashion, SFC works across four pillars: sustainability, innovation and technology, internationalisation, and retail. It develops industry capabilities, supports local businesses and designers, facilitates international market opportunities and promotes environmentally responsible practices. Through programmes, partnerships, knowledge platforms and industry initiatives, SFC seeks to strengthen Singapore's fashion ecosystem while advancing circularity, innovation and more responsible approaches across the textile and fashion value chain.

The logo for the Singapore Fashion Council, featuring the text "Singapore Fashion Council" in a bold, sans-serif font, with "Singapore" on the top line, "Fashion" in the middle, and "Council" at the bottom.

Solidaridad

Solidaridad is an international civil society organisation working to make global supply chains more sustainable and inclusive. With more than five decades of experience and operations across more than 40 countries, Solidaridad works with farmers, workers, businesses, governments and other stakeholders across value chains. Its work focuses on enabling farmers and workers to earn a decent income, strengthen their livelihoods and produce in balance with nature. The organisation works across sectors and commodities to promote sustainable production, responsible sourcing, resource efficiency and improved working conditions. Through partnerships and practical solutions, Solidaridad seeks to advance supply chains that deliver benefits for people, the planet and future generations.

The logo for Solidaridad, featuring the word "Solidaridad" in a bold, sans-serif font, with a yellow underline beneath the text.

TÜV SÜD

Founded in 1866, TÜV SÜD is a global testing, inspection and certification organisation providing services that support safety, security, quality and sustainability across a wide range of industries. With more than 30,000 employees and locations worldwide, the organisation works with companies and public institutions to manage technology-related risks and enable responsible innovation. Sustainability is embedded in its services and corporate strategy, covering environmental performance, resource efficiency, climate action, social responsibility and governance. TÜV SÜD supports organisations in navigating evolving sustainability requirements, assessing performance and building trust in products, systems and processes as they transition towards a more sustainable and digital future.



United Nations ESCAP – ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN)

The ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN), convened by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), brings together business leaders and sustainability representatives from across the Asia-Pacific region to advance the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. Through its taskforces and regional initiatives, ESN promotes business action on climate change, circularity, sustainable finance, resilient infrastructure and other priorities for a sustainable economy. It provides a platform for businesses to exchange knowledge, strengthen partnerships and contribute to regional sustainability dialogue, supporting greater alignment between private-sector action and the region's wider sustainable development priorities.



WWF

WWF is a global conservation organisation working to protect biodiversity, conserve and restore nature, reduce humanity's environmental footprint and promote the sustainable use of natural resources. Founded in 1961, WWF works across forests, freshwater systems, oceans, landscapes and other critical ecosystems, partnering with governments, businesses, communities and civil society to develop practical solutions to environmental challenges. Its work increasingly addresses the relationship between nature, climate, livelihoods and economic systems, including efforts to promote responsible production, nature-positive value chains and sustainable finance. Through science, partnerships and field-based action, WWF works to support a future in which people and nature can thrive together.



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Rijit Sengupta

Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Responsible Business
rijit@c4rb.in

Devyani Hari

Senior Director
Centre for Responsible Business
devyani@c4rb.in

Siya Chopra

Deputy Director
Centre for Responsible Business
siya@c4rb.in

Neha Tomar

Assistant Director
Centre for Responsible Business
neha@c4rb.in